

In the Claims:

1. (previously presented) An adhesive die-cut article having an external contour comprising an adhesive layer with an internal cut-out having a contour, wherein the external contour of the adhesive die-cut article has no common point with the contour of the internal cut-out, a matrix layer having an internal cut-out which is congruent with the internal cut-out in the adhesive layer, said matrix layer being a compacted material, and a covering film covering the composite of matrix layer, adhesive layer, and internal cut-out, wherein the internal cut-out is filled with filler material containing a pharmaceutical active ingredient selected from the group consisting of salicylic acid, lactic acid, 5-fluoruracil, capsaicin, acetyl-salicylic acid, and nonoic acid vanillyl amide, and wherein the matrix layer comprises a natural or synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polypropylenes, polybutylenes, poly-1-butenes, polyisobutene, cellulose, chemical pulp, paper, cotton, acetylcellulose, celluloid, viscose, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinylalcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl ether and ethylene-vinyl-acetate (EVA) copolymers.
2. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, further comprising a detachable protective film.
3. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the internal cut-out has a circular shape.
4. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the internal cut-out has a rectangular shape.
5. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the

thickness of the adhesive layer and of the matrix layer in sum are less than the maximum extent of the internal cut-out in longitudinal or transverse direction.

6. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein said filler material is selected from the group consisting of liquid, semi-solid, gel-like, pasty, powdery and fusible materials and mixtures thereof.

7. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer comprises a natural or synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polyisobutylenes, silicones, rubber and SIS block copolymers.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein said filler material is a ~~[[gel]]~~ gel-like material.

11. (currently amended) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein said filler material is a powdery ~~preparation~~ material.

12. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein said filler material is a fusible material.

13. (currently amended) An adhesive die-cut article having an external contour comprising an adhesive layer with an internal cut-out having a contour, wherein the external contour of the adhesive die-cut article has no common point with the contour of the internal cut-out, a matrix layer having an internal cut-out which is congruent with the internal cut-out in the adhesive layer, said matrix being a compacted material, and a covering film covering the composite of the matrix layer, adhesive layer and internal cut-

out, wherein the internal cut-out is filled with a filler material containing a pharmaceutical active ingredient selected from the group consisting of salicylic acid, lactic acid, 5-fluoruracil, capsaicin, acetyl-salicylic acid, and nonoic acid vanillyl amide, and wherein said filler material is ~~selected from the group consisting of a gel, a powdery preparation and a fusible~~ a gel-like material.

14. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 13, wherein the matrix layer comprises a natural or synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polyethylenes, polypropylenes, polybutylenes, polyurethanes, poly-1-butenes, polyisobutene, rubbers, silicone rubbers, cellulose, chemical pulp, paper, cotton, acetylcellulose, celluloid, viscose, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinylalcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl ether and ethylene-vinyl-acetate (EVA) copolymers.

15. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 13, wherein the matrix layer comprises a natural polymer selected from the group consisting of cellulose, chemical pulp, paper and cotton.

16. (previously presented) The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 13, wherein the matrix layer comprises synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polypropylenes, polybutylenes, poly-1-butenes, polyisobutene, acetylcellulose, celluloid, viscose, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinylalcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl ether and ethylene-vinyl-acetate (EVA) copolymers.